TOP Issuance for Smog Pretest Failure

New Policy

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will accept a failed smog **pretest** for issuance of a biennial smog certification Temporary Operating Permit (TOP) (REG 19F).

All completed pretests (pass or fail) are issued a Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR).

NOTE: An **aborted** test is **not** a valid failed test for TOP issuance.

Procedures

Continue to follow the procedures in the *Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual* §25.030 for biennial smog failure TOP requirements.

Additionally, a VIR showing a failed pretest will be accepted by the DMV as evidence of a failed smog inspection for biennial TOP issuance.

Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) website printouts submitted by customers are **not** acceptable.

Background

Pretest failures are considered initial failures and are accepted by the BAR for the Consumer Assistance Program's vehicle repair and retirement programs.

To be consistent with BAR's policy, the DMV also accepts pretest failures as proof that the vehicle has failed its most recent smog check inspection.

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online, at **www.dmv.ca.gov** under Publications was made via California DMV's Automated E-mail Alert System in November 2011.

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

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